

## **Andrew Jackson to George Breathitt, November 7, 1832, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.**

### **TO GEORGE BREATHITT.1**

1 Copy. Breathitt went to Charleston ostensibly as a post-office inspector; but his real business was to observe the situation with respect to nullification and to report to Jackson.

Washington, November 7, 1832.

Mr. Breathitt during his visit to charleston on the business with which he is charged by the Treasury and Post office Departments, will collect all the information he can obtain from correct sources on the following points, 1st. What foundation there is for the statements he has seen that several officers employed in the revenue service are aiding the views of the party that have declared the Tariff laws inoperative and void within the limits of the state of South carolina. If they are well founded Mr. Breathett will collect the evidence and bring it with him, specifying the names of all officers so engaged.

2d. What foundation there is for the report that the Post master of the city of charleston and his clerks or deputies are aiding the views of the same party, and that communications from the Government passing thro' that office at this time are subjected to examination before they reach their address. The evidence of this charge and the names of the persons implicated Mr. Breathitt will collect.

3d. Should it appear that there are any other officers holding commissions from the General Government, aiding or countenancing in any form the scheme of the Nullifiers to thwart the execution of the laws of the Union, Mr. Breathett will make it his business to ascertain their names and the evidence of their misconduct in this respect. He will also

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by consultation with Col. Drayton and Mr. Poinsett and other discreet friends of the Union obtain all such information as may be useful to the Government to enable it to take timely steps towards the counteraction of the effort of the Nullifiers to render inoperative the laws of the Union: